

# Electricity and Magnetism

## Notes

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<http://www.brainpop.com/science/motionsforcesandtime/magnetism/preview.weml>

### Magnetism

a force of attraction or repulsion by magnetic materials

### Magnet

an object that pulls some metals to itself



Materials attracted to magnets

- iron
- nickel
- cobalt
- steel (made mostly of iron)

Materials NOT attracted to magnets

- wood
- copper
- aluminum
- plastic
- glass

## Magnetic field

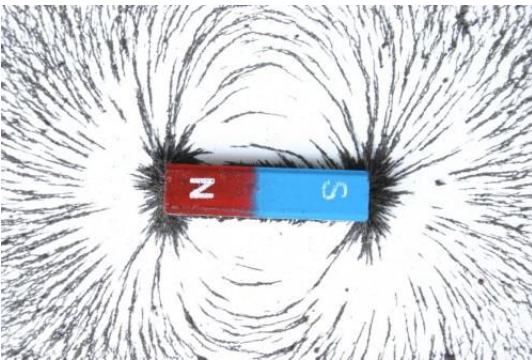
the area affected by a magnet

It surrounds a magnet

## Magnetic poles

each end of a magnet

This is where the magnetic field is the strongest



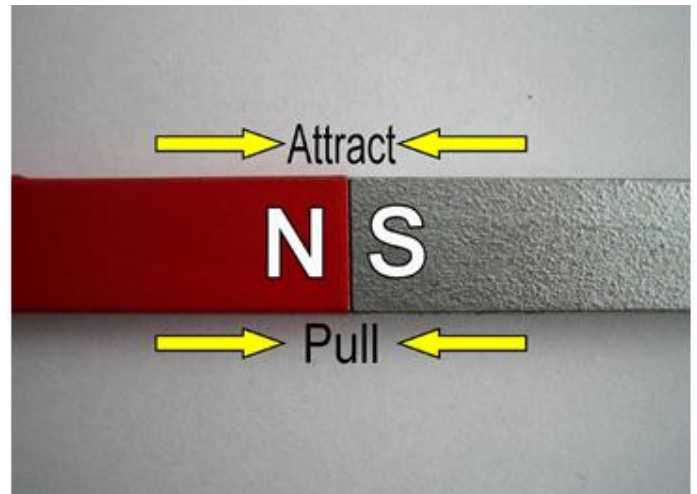
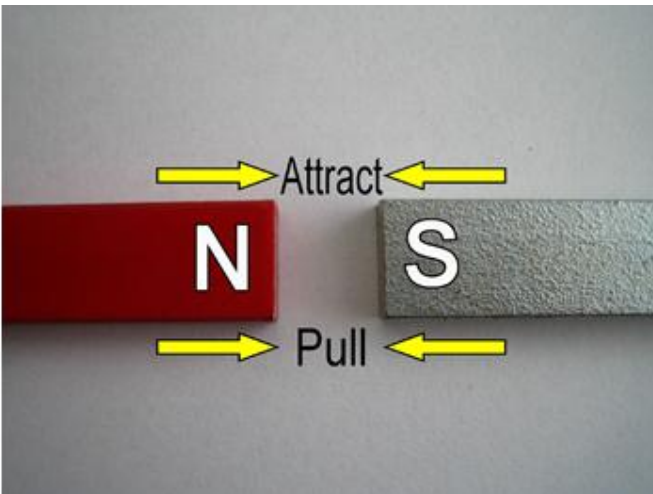
Two magnetic poles

- north pole
- south pole

Both poles attract other metals

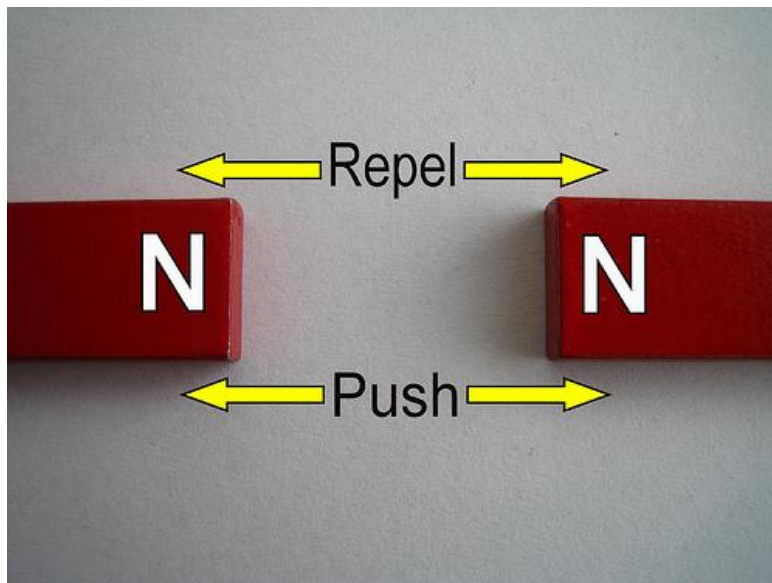
North pole will attract south pole of another magnet

South pole will attract north pole of another magnet



<http://www.absorblearning.com/media/item.action?quick=76>

North poles repel each other;  
south poles repel each other



<http://www.absorblearning.com/media/item.action?quick=77>

## Uses of magnets

- telephones
- doorbells
- stereo speakers
- electric motors
- alarm systems

## Electric charge

electricity that is held or carried by something

It is caused by electrons moving between atoms

<http://www.brainpop.com/science/energy/electricity/preview.weml>

## Static electricity

electricity that collects on objects and doesn't flow

It can only jump from place to place

Static electricity can be produced when different materials rub against each other



<http://www.brainpop.com/science/energy/staticelectricity/preview.weml>

<http://www.absorblearning.com/media/item.action?quick=6c>

### **Electric current**

a charge that flows along a circuit

### **Circuit**

a path electricity can follow

<http://www.brainpop.com/technology/energytechnology/electrircircuits/preview.weml>

### **Conductor**

a material that can carry electricity

Circuits are created by conductors

Examples of  
conductors

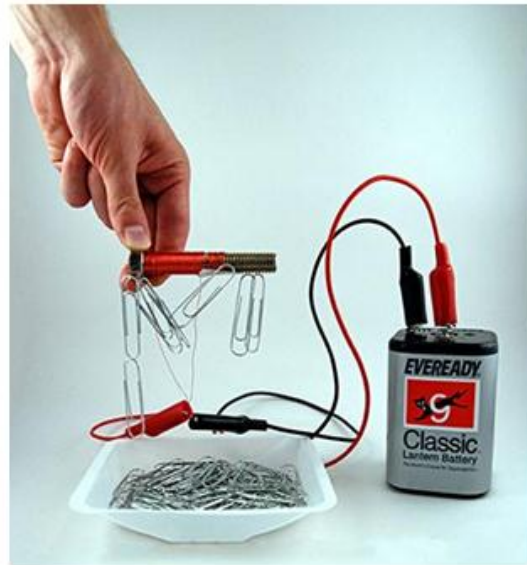
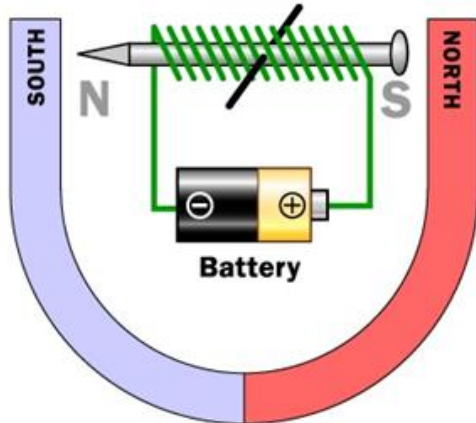
- copper wire
- iron
- gold
- water

### **Electric generator**

a machine with metal wires  
spinning inside an electric field  
that makes electricity

### **Electromagnet**

a metal bar with a wire around it  
that creates a magnetic field when  
an electric current moves through  
the wire



<http://www.brainpop.com/technology/energytechnology/electromagnets/preview.weml>

## Electricity and Magnetism

### Check Your Understanding

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1. What caused the cat's fur to stand up?

\_\_\_\_\_ caused the cat's fur to stand up.

2. How does the electric generator make electricity?

The electric generator makes electricity when \_\_\_\_\_.

3. What is a magnet?

A magnet is \_\_\_\_\_.

4. What will happen if the person stops turning the handle on the electric generator?

*If the person stops turning the handle on the electric generator, it will \_\_\_\_\_ .*

Two basic kinds of electricity

- static electricity
- current electricity

### **Current electricity**

electricity that moves along a path

It requires an energy source

<http://www.brainpop.com/technology/energytechnology/currentelectricity/preview.weml>

### **Energy source**

something that provides energy

It produces a flow of electrons called an *electric current*

Examples of energy sources

- water
- coal
- natural gas
- sunlight
- battery
- electric generator

## **Battery**

a small object that provides power for electrical items

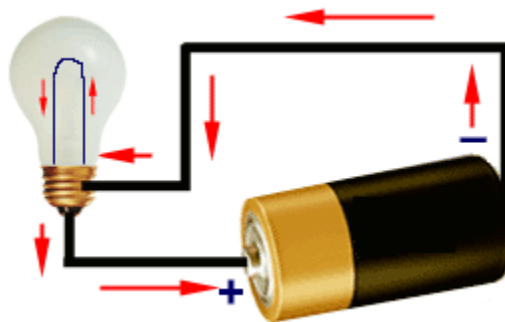
<http://www.brainpop.com/technology/energytechnology/batteries/preview.weml>

Example of a circuit

in a flashlight, a battery is connected to a wire

Another wire goes from the lightbulb back to the battery, forming a path

Electrons flow along this path from the battery to the bulb and back



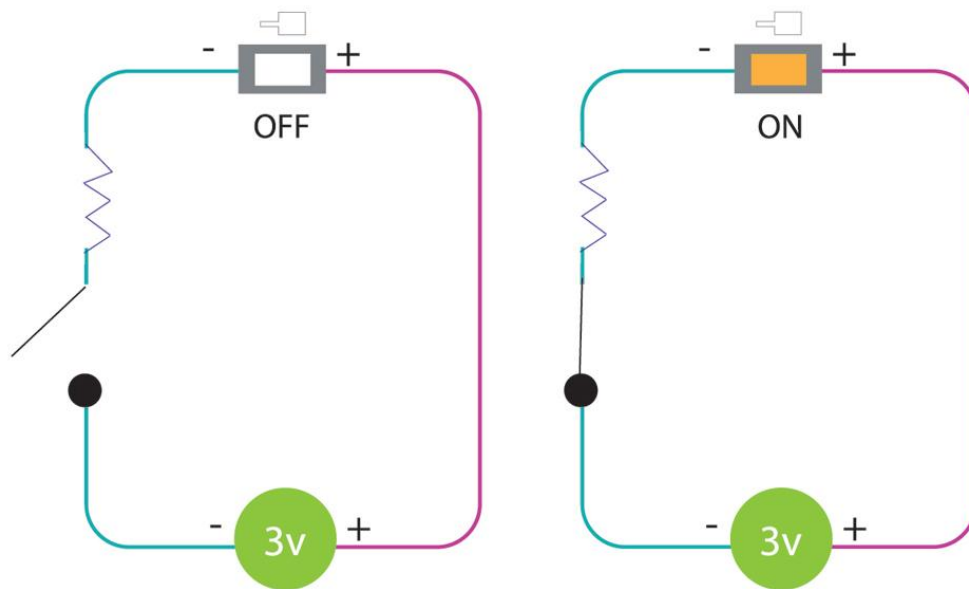
Opening in the circuit

stops the current from moving along the path

## **Switch**

a device that opens and closes a circuit



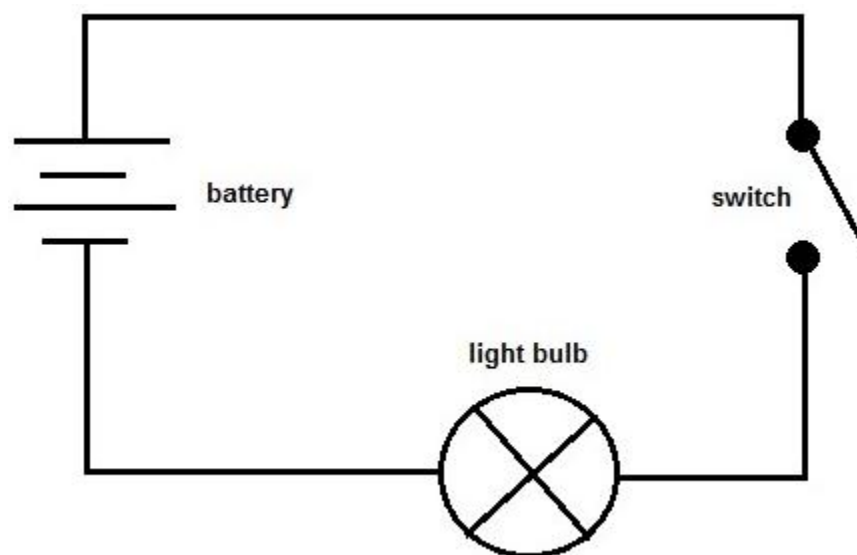


[http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/science/add\\_aqa/electricity/circuitsrev4.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/science/add_aqa/electricity/circuitsrev4.shtml)

[http://www.members.shaw.ca/len92/current\\_animation.gif](http://www.members.shaw.ca/len92/current_animation.gif)

### **Circuit diagram**

a diagram that uses symbols to show the parts of an electrical circuit



## Electricity and Magnetism

### Science Skill

### Reading a Circuit Diagram

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1. What is the straight line that joins the battery symbol and the lightbulb symbol?

*The straight line that joins the battery symbol and the lightbulb symbol is the \_\_\_\_\_ .*

2. What does the symbol that looks like a door that opens and closes stand for?

*The symbol that looks like a door that opens and closes stands for a \_\_\_\_\_ .*

Insulator

material that does not allow electricity to flow easily through it

Examples of insulators

- plastic
- glass
- wood
- rubber
- air



## Electricity and Magnetism

### Check Your Understanding

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1. When an object gains electrons, what charge does it have?

*When an object gains electrons, it has a \_\_\_\_\_ charge.*

2. What parts make up the circuit in a flashlight?

*The parts that make up the circuit in a flashlight are the \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.*

3. What is an insulator?

*An insulator is \_\_\_\_\_.*

4. Name two conductors and two insulators.

*Two conductors are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.*

*Two insulators are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.*